

Virginia Air & Space Center Hampton, Virginia

"The Virginia Air & Space Center is a progressive science museum with a mission to educate, entertain and inspire explorers of all ages. The Center showcases the Apollo 12 Command Module, an impressive collection of more than a dozen historic aircraft, and houses a 3D IMAX® Theater. The Center offers stimulating, interactive traveling exhibits and education programs for students and visitors, and serves as the visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center and Langley Air Force Base."



Green Statement: "Realizing the importance of conservation and recycling in their personal lives, the staff was inspired to extend green practices and pollution prevention to their "museum home." As a science center, it is our social responsibility to minimize our environmental impact by preventing pollution and helping to educate the public on how we can all make a difference."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Attractions

☒ **Recycling.** Virginia Green facilities must have highly-visible locations/containers that provide the opportunity for guests to recycle aluminum cans, plastic and glass bottles, or other disposable products purchased at the facility. Recycling of cardboard, plastic, paper, and composting of waste foods is highly encouraged as well. This facility pledges that they:

- Offer the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass, aluminum cans, plastic bottles
- Also recycle: steel cans, newspaper, office paper, toner cartridges, cardboard, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment

☒ **Minimize the use of disposable food service products.** The facility is required to minimize the use of disposable food service products and maximize the use of food service products that are recyclable or compostable in the food service area. When disposable food service items are used, the facility is encouraged to use products that are made from bio-based or renewable resources, and to provide for the collection / recycling/ composting of food service items disposed of on the premises. This facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)

☒ **Reduce solid waste.** The facility must be actively working to reduce its solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall solid waste costs

Kitchen (or during meetings/events)

- Recycle fryer grease
- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control system to minimize waste

Dining room (or during meetings/events)

- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Use high-efficiency hand-dryers
- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible



Buildings and grounds

- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Install carpet with sustainable or recycled content and low-VOC adhesives
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles

☒ **Use water efficiently.** The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its water use. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
 - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)

Activities outdoors

- Have minimized our lawn area
- Have installed a green roof

☒ **Conserve energy.** The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its energy use. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities within the past 12 months

Heating and cooling

- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T-5 and T-8)
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting
- Have installed LED Exit Signs

- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

Appliances and electronic devices

- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used

Building construction and renovation

- Earned the ENERGY STAR label for our building
- Roof replaced with recycled aluminum product and additional insulation installed at time of roof replacement.

- ☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:
- Promote the availability of “green meetings/conferences” in marketing packages

For more information on **Virginia Air & Space Center**, see www.vasc.org or contact Jenny K. Kelley at jkelly@vasc.org or (757) 727-0900 ext. 708.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia’s campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. **Virginia Green Attractions** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established “core activities” for **Green Attractions** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen or www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

